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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Miera DATE TYPED 2-7-04 HB 509

SHORT TITLE Extend-Multi-Term Education Testing Contracts SB _____

ANALYST Segura

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY04	FY05	FY04	FY05		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 509 amends Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978 to provide for multi-term contracts for periods up to 12 years for professional services relating to the development and implementation of standardized tests for students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade and services relating to the development and implementation of teacher tests required to obtain professional licensure.

Significant Issues

According to PED, currently, Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978 limits the term of professional services contracts, with certain exceptions, to four years.

The department indicates that to extending the allowable term of these professional contracts would benefit the implementation of student and teacher testing programs:

- The same tests could be administered for longer periods of time resulting in an increase in longitudinal test data available to schools;

- It would enable the PED to save additional costs associated with proposals for tests development;
- The bill would promote long-range program planning, thus supporting increased continuity in the statewide testing program; and
- In meeting NCLB requirements, increasing the allowable term for assessment contracts could provide continuity in the measurement of Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) through the use of the same tests over time.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Bill 509 does not contain an appropriation. According to PED, enactment of this bill would allow PED to enter into contracts less frequently, resulting in costs savings over time.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

According to PED, an increase in term length for assessment contracts would most probably result in a reduction of time needed on the part of staff in the issuance of Requests for Proposals (RFP).

RS/dm:lg